



Alexandria, Va.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1876.

**FIRES AND INSURANCE IN ALEXANDRIA.**—While there is justly a very considerable interest felt in the result of the contest over the Chief Engineer'ship of the Fire Department, this interest on the part of a large number of our citizens grows out of their esteem for the public spirited gentleman who has so long occupied that position, and who has filled it so well. A far higher and more important subject is that of the best means for the prevention and extinguishment of fires, as well as the obtaining of a low rate of premium for insurance against loss by fire. We make up from the files of the Gazette and of the Local News a summary of the losses by fire in this city in a series of years before and since the late war. The fire loss of Alexandria was as follows in the years named:

Before the war:

1858,	\$ 6,250
1859,	10,620
1860,	8,900
1861,	6,455

Since the war, being to July 1st of the year named:

1872,	\$14,800
1873,	22,500
1874,	5,574
1875,	26,600
1876,	12,300

The average loss of the five years ending July 1, 1876, has been \$16,414. A loss which shows the large profits reaped by the insurance companies, and of all the business enterprises pursued by men, none are more legitimate and useful, and it is just that such enterprises should be profitable. Let us look and see what we pay in Alexandria. Of course we can only approximate the result. The real and personal estate of the city is estimated at \$5,500,000, and of this it is estimated that \$3,000,000 is insured, the average rate being about one per cent. This would give \$30,000 paid for insurance, and affords the fire underwriters a good margin against the average fire loss of \$16,414, developed in the past five years.

A writer in the Richmond Whig replying to some strictures made by a correspondent upon Mr. J. R. Tucker, the able representative from the Lexington district in Congress, says: "I undertake to say that no constituency (not even John Randolph's) ever had a representative of whose standing in the public councils they were prouder than are the people of the oldolph Tucker. All the people of Virginia recognize the fact that there is in Randolph Tucker a high order of manhood—the learned constitutional lawyer, a wise and conservative statesman, and a high toned Christian gentleman." Not only his immediate constituency but the people of the whole State are proud of Mr. Tucker.

The Fredericksburg Herald, the oldest paper in this State, is offered for sale by its proprietor, the veteran Major J. Harrison Kelly, who has been in charge of the paper for a quarter of a century past, and during that period has won the esteem of the thinking portion of the community for his manly, judicious and patriotic course. The Herald was established in 1786, and consequently lacks but ten years of its centennial. May it live a thousand years.

The Petersburg Post, in commenting on Col. Mosby's last letter, says: "Col. Mosby's system of reasoning is faulty and thin, and his deductions from his variously assumed premises in political matters, past and present, are as erroneous as could well be conceived. However, Virginians will always respect Mosby for what he was, even if they now have to turn aside to prevent seeing his present weak points and unamiable attitude."

The address of Gen. Wade Hampton to the South Carolina Democratic convention on accepting the nomination for Governor is published. He engages if elected to be the Governor of the whole people, making no vindictive discriminations, and seeing that the laws are enforced, and he will endeavor to restore the State government to decency, honesty, economy and integrity.

It is said that Platt intends to run for Congress again at the approaching election, in opposition to Col. Goode. His no use, the naval appropriation bill is comparatively small, especially for election purposes, and then people are thoroughly for Col. Goode, whom makes them a representative of whom they may justly feel proud.

Ex Governor Walker is announced to speak in Maine in the course of the pending canvass.

#### The Fourth District Radicals.

FARMVILLE, VA., August 16.—The radical convention to nominate a candidate for the Fourth Congressional district met at 5 p. m. Jorgenson and De Mortie, the two candidates, were largely represented, the Jorgenson party being the strongest. He claims the nomination, getting 27 votes and De Mortie 18. The De Mortie party bolted, claiming unfair dealing, and held a convention of their own in the court house where there candidate was unanimously nominated. The Jorgenson party say Yankee Allan was the cause of De Mortie bolting, as he aspires to the office. De Mortie says he will certainly run.—Rich. Enquirer.

#### Speaker Kerr.

ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS, VA., August 17.—Mr. Kerr's condition is about the same as last night; no apparent change for better or worse. Dr. Pope, his physician, says of him to-day: "Speaker Kerr's condition is highly critical. He suffers the most intense pain, and requires continuous watching." And he adds that "he is one of the most intelligent and impressive patients I ever met. He is, although helplessly weak, perfectly rational, and is wholly without fear of death."

#### News of the Day.

The paid admissions to the Centennial Exposition yesterday numbered 27,103.

Under the new law consolidating the internal revenue districts throughout the country, thirty five collectors will be removed.

President Grant denies the report that Secretary Robeson before leaving for Rye Beach, placed his resignation in his hands.

The appropriation bills of this year, as passed by the House of Representatives, are in the aggregate \$29,594,187. \$8 less than for the same branches of the last year.

Suit has been entered by the Government in the United States District Court for New York against Jay Cooke & Co., to recover \$20,000 balance of duties on custom house bonds.

A delegation representing the Hayes and Wheeler Club of Baltimore called upon the President yesterday morning to urge the removal of United States Marshal Goldsborough, and the appointment of Gen. E. B. Tyler in his place.

The Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree A. F. and A. M., in session in New York, yesterday elected their officers for the ensuing three years, Joseph Drummond, of Maine, was chosen Grand Commander.

The State convention of the independent or greenback party in Indiana met at Indianapolis yesterday to fill the vacancies on the State ticket. Resolutions were adopted denouncing both the republican and democratic parties.

A petition will be presented to the Postmaster General to-day, signed by twenty-two citizens of New York, requesting that the letter carriers' salaries in that city be reinstated at \$1,000 per annum instead of \$900, as recently reduced.

The Governor of Lower California telegraphs to the Mexican consul at San Francisco that a general uprising of the Indians along the Colorado river and the adjoining country against the Mexicans is apprehended, and that much alarm is felt.

The conference of Southern railroad managers which has been in session at Saratoga, New York, adjourned yesterday after adopting a report recommending remedial measures of the evils now existing in the railroad management of the South. A permanent association of managers to be formed, who will hold annual reunions at Saratoga. The next will be held from the 15th to the 20th of August, 1877.

The steamship Great Republic, at San Francisco, brings Chinese advices to July 15. Mr. Wade, the British Minister, had left Peking, and rejected all overtures to induce him to return. War between the British and Chinese was considered imminent. A famine prevails in the northern provinces, and thousands are dying of starvation. Anti-Christian riots continue in the province of Schuen. A British ship was about to proceed to Corea to punish natives for an attack on British boats. The Mikado of Japan had returned to the capital from his tour of the northern provinces. Great activity prevailed in the silk trade. A Japanese steamer exploded her boiler on the 4th of July and twenty persons were killed.

#### Virginia News.

The Lynchburg Fair commences October 24th, and continues the 25th, 26th and 27th. John Tyler, Jr., son of ex President Tyler, deceased, has become a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He preached an eloquent sermon at Wesley Grove camp meeting, in Maryland, on Monday last.

Buckingham county is in the centre of civilization, and yet it is probably the most isolated county in the State—not a public highway, nor a railroad, nor even a stage coach to herald the progress and bring tidings from the world around.

Last week Major J. D. Richardson left at Dr. Page's drug store, in Berryville, a pig having a bad and face like that of a child. The forehead, chin and mouth are unmistakably human in appearance, but the nose is represented by a fleshy, beak-like shape about a half inch in length. The eyes are wide apart, and set somewhat up in the forehead. The ears, body, legs and feet are those of a pig. This singular deformity lived 24 hours after the sow gave birth to it. Dr. Page is preserving it in alcohol.

The work of changing the track on the completed portion of the Harrisonburg and Fredericksburg railroad to a three-foot gauge commenced last week. The engineers report having found an easy grade over the Blue Ridge. It is the purpose of the Royal Land Company to put the road under contract from Orange Court House to Rawley Springs, and the work is to be completed in twelve months. The company also expect to apply to the County Court on Monday for the right of way through the county.

**RADICAL CONVENTION.**—According to previous announcement, there was a convention in this town on Monday last, for the purpose of nominating delegates to the radical Congressional Convention, that meets in Alexandria, on the 30th of August. Less than a baker's dozen constituted the Convention. H. R. Holmes was called to the chair, and C. C. Gaver appointed secretary. One delegate and one alternate from each of the six magisterial districts, and two delegates from the county at large, were appointed to represent Loudoun in the Congressional Convention. H. R. Holmes and John B. Dutton were those delegates at large. A letter was read from Mr. Lewis McKee, asking the Convention to pass a resolution requesting the Hon. Francis Miller, of Maryland, to visit Loudoun and address the people. The proposition was quashed upon the testimony of a member of the meeting, who declared that "Mr. Miller was not a success as a politician." The "colored troops," who were completely ignored in the division of honors, talk of holding a meeting and choosing their own delegates to Alexandria.—Loudoun Mirror.

**QUICK WORK.**—The Lynchburg News of yesterday morning says: "The wreck has been all cleared away at the scene of the late disaster on the Midland Railroad, except the engine, which will be removed and sent to Alexandria to-morrow or the next day. It is but slightly damaged, and can be repaired in a few days. A force of hands, under the supervision of Col. Forsore, commenced erecting a new bridge over the culvert yesterday morning, and at half-past four o'clock in the evening, the train from Alexandria passed over it, being on time to the minute. The Colonel, on Monday, erected a temporary telegraph office at the place of the disaster, and yesterday evening telegraphed that the bridge would be ready when the train arrived. He was as good as his word, and the new structure is said to be one of the strongest bridges on the road. The trains will now run on schedule time, as before the accident."

**CONSERVATIVE RALLY AT LOUISA C. H.**—The conservatives of Louisa county organized Monday last, with H. W. Murray as chairman of the county committee. Mr. H. T. Kerr, a former resident (now of St. Louis), delivered an excellent speech on the issues of the day. He was followed by A. M. Kelley of Richmond, who cheered to the echo—words of eloquence and patriotism fell from his lips. Mr. John R. Popham, radical, endeavored to answer Mr. Kelley, but fell short of the mark. The conservatives in Louisa are in good spirits.

#### Political History.

Ex Senator Chapman, of North Carolina, has written the following letter to the New York Herald:

My attention has been called to a letter of the Hon. Alexander H. Stephens which appears in your paper of the 8th inst., in which some references are made to me in connection with Messrs. Stephens and Toombs. I understand that there were some previous letters of Mr. Thurlow Weed in which mention was made of my name. The transactions which led to the mistake of Mr. Weed were in themselves sufficiently interesting to justify an elaborate article in one of the magazines of the day; but I shall content myself with a concise statement as I can present to make the matter understood. I know much more of the transactions than any one else, but there are gentlemen living to whom all the several facts I shall refer to are known as far as they are material.

During the session of 1850, at which the compromise measures were passed, Mr. Clay resided at the National Hotel. I was also a boarder there, and, though opposing Mr. Clay's plan, I was in constant communication with him. In fact, if several days had passed without my calling at his room in the evening he would on casual meeting me about the Capitol say, "Where have you been all this while?" I expect you have been to me myself. He would say frequently, "I wish to hear from you all and then I will decide for myself."

During a conversation one evening I said to him that there were three forces of obstacles to his scheme of compromise, that were sufficient to defeat it, viz: First, the opposition of the anti-slavery republicans; second, the opposition of General Taylor, and third, that of the Southern rights men. That he would not win the support of Mr. Seward's party, because they desired to keep up sectional agitation for political effect, and were opposed, therefore, to any settlement, and that as the administration had a plan of its own it would regard itself as defeated if any other form of settlement was adopted; but that the Southern men would be induced to co-operate if certain changes were adopted in his scheme of adjustment. That one of two things would bring him Southern votes enough to enable him to pass his bill—either to cut off the Southern portion of California by the line of thirty-six thirty, or, and as an equivalent, on the western border of Missouri, to change the line of thirty-six thirty to the fortieth parallel, and, after running it back to what was the eastern border of Utah, then deflect it to the south and extend it to the Pacific Ocean with the southern boundary of California. I had in a speech, made in January previously, urged this plan. Mr. Clay rejected instantly the proposition to change the line of the Missouri Compromise. He also at first said, "You had as well talk of dividing the moon as California," but, after some further conversation, seemed to yield somewhat, though he left his purpose undecided, or at least did not then announce it.

A few evenings after this, on my meeting him, he said impetuously, and with seeming disappointment, "You were mistaken, for the Southern Senators will not support my plan, even if we agree to the division of California." He then stated that Senator Foote, of Mississippi, had that day spoken to Hunter, Soule, Yulee and Turney, and that they all refused. I told him that such a hasty movement as that which he had tried was ill-judged and certain to have failed; that time was necessary to make the preliminary movements which, I felt confident, would bring them in. I then explained in detail to Mr. Clay what I proposed should be done. It was in substance this:

General Taylor, it was understood, was then contemplating the use of the army to settle the dispute as to the boundary of Texas. There was a great fear of the passage of the bill, and the Southern Whigs especially were excited, feeling that they had already gone as far in their support of the extreme Northern views of their party as they could afford to do. My colleague, Mr. Outlaw, Mr. Humphrey Marshall, of Kentucky, and others, were disposed to abandon the administration if such a policy was insisted on. After finding that most if not all of the more moderate of the Southern Whigs concurred in these views, a caucus was called composed of Southern Whigs alone. After a full interchange of views it was agreed that a proper effort should be made to induce General Taylor to change his policy, and in the event of failure so to change his purpose it was evident that the Southern Whigs, probably all with the exception of Mr. Stanley, would abandon the administration, cut loose from the Northern Whigs and act with the Democratic party. Three gentlemen were selected to confer with General Taylor, Mr. Charles M. Conrad, of Louisiana, a personal friend of General Taylor, and a Representative from his own State, and Mr. Humphrey Marshall, who had served under him in Mexico, and Mr. Toombs, who had been one of the most active and influential men in bringing forward Gen. Taylor as a presidential candidate. In order that there might not seem to be any menace implied in the movement, it was agreed that these gentlemen should confer with General Taylor separately. Mr. Conrad first saw him and stated to me the result of the interview. He said that the President was obstinately fixed in his purpose, and that his mind was so prejudiced that he regarded the opposition to his scheme as factious, and stimulated by Messrs. Clay and Webster from chagrin because he had superseded them as a presidential candidate, while Cass was hostile on account of his defeat. Mr. Marshall soon after had an interview with a similar result. While speaking of it to me he burst into a fit of laughter, saying, "the old fellow takes the military view of the question; he said he had ninety men from the North and only thirty from the South (referring to the relative number of white members from the two sections), and asked, 'Am I to give up ninety in the North for your thirty in the South?'"

Mr. Toombs did not see General Taylor until after he had been taken ill, but before he was supposed to be in danger. He became ill, it may be remembered, after attending the celebration of the Fourth of July, and died on the 9th. About the time of his death some of the newspapers which were in sympathy with Mr. Weed's views had exaggerated statements of Mr. Toombs' interview, and represented him as standing over the dying President and using threatening language to him. I presume that Mr. Weed's mistake is due to some vague recollections of these publications.

The death of the President changed the condition of the whole question, and the case was did not reassemble again. The machinery with which the Southern Whigs were to be detached from this question from their Northern associates was destroyed. I had felt confident that Gen. Taylor would refuse our request, and was equally confident that in such a contingency the Southern Whigs would unite with the democracy North and South, and under the lead of Mr. Clay, aided by General Cass, make a common war on the administration. As Mr. Clay's personal influence would have brought in a few Northern Whigs we should have had about two-thirds of the Congress, and would easily have carried a substantial measure of compromise. It would have been an extension of the Missouri line to the Pacific, or such a modification as would have been an improvement. We should have escaped the mischievous contention which, in its results, benefited the evil they apprehended from it. We should thus have avoided the excitement resulting from the Kansas and Nebraska struggle, which expedited the collision between the sections many years, and likewise the split at Charleston, which precipitated the country into immediate war.

The death of General Taylor threw the issue again back into its condition of uncertainty. Mr. Clay changed his line of policy. He had refused to take the amendment of Norris, though he said it would, if adopted, give him four additional votes in the Senate for his bills. He now, however, decided to accept it. Toward the latter part of July I had some conversation with him in the Senate. That morning he was dressed all in spotless white, except his blue dress coat, and looked more buoyant in spirits than I had seen him during the session. On my reminding him of former conversations he said that he would take Norris' amendment and gain votes enough to pass the bill. I said—"Mr. Clay, you have been disappointed three times this session." With an impetuous wave of his hand and a haughty look, he said—"The administration was the only obstacle to the passage of my measures and I shall now carry them without difficulty." I walked across the chamber and spoke to Messrs. Hunter and Soule, who were standing together. It may be proper to explain that though they and their Southern associates would not support Mr. Clay's plan, yet they protected it from destruction by the attacks made on it by the Seward wing of its opponents, in the hope that it might ultimately be gotten into such a shape that they would support it. On my stating to them what Mr. Clay had decided on, Mr. Hunter said, "Then you think we had better let it be destroyed." I told him I was decidedly of that opinion. Immediately afterward, as the records of the proceedings show, the compromise of Mr. Clay was cut to pieces, and a single plank in it, the Utah bill, was passed. On the morning after ward Mr. Clay made a denigratory speech in the Senate and went up to Newport to recruit his health. Senator Pearce's bill, in certain respects more favorable to the South, came in, and ultimately the series of measures were adopted called the Compromise of 1850.

Not having seen either of Mr. Weed's letters I can only infer their contents from reading that of Mr. Stephens. I never had a conversation with General Taylor on a political subject, unless it was a casual remark as one of his dinners or evening receptions. Nor did I ever hear of any one having such an interview as that spoken of by Mr. Weed. I scarcely think such a thing could have occurred without my knowledge, for I felt a great interest in the issue, was very active, seldom going to bed during that month's session till after two o'clock. Having learned who were the principal sitters up I was able to occupy myself with interviews till a late hour in the evenings, and from week to week I was able to understand the position on the question of almost every member of each House during the session. The intervention scheme I considered as an ingeniously devised stratagem to produce a collision between the sections, because it was regarded at the North as making all the territory free, while in the South it was asserted that under it all the Territories were slaveholding. It is to me a matter of regret that my declarations, in 1851, that in ten years, on account of that settlement, we should have either a dissolution of the Union or a civil war, were verified by the event. While Mr. Weed and his friends regarded the death of General Taylor as a loss to their side I both at that time and ever since looked on it as one of those important events that greatly tended to produce the results which subsequently occurred.

Respectfully, &c.,  
T. L. CLINGMAN.

#### Potomac Baptist Association.

Yesterday morning the second day's session of the Potomac Baptist Association was held at the Thirteenth-street (Baptist) church, Rev. J. A. Haynes, moderator, presiding, and J. R. Nunn, clerk.

The order of the hour being taken up, Rev. W. R. D. Moursure read an elaborate and carefully prepared report of the committee on education.

The subject was then discussed by Messrs. J. L. Carroll, J. P. Edlyson, J. B. Jeter, H. K. Ellyson, W. S. Penick and J. B. Luke, and was finally adopted.

The association then united in singing, and Rev. B. P. Dulin reported that the next meeting of the association would be held at Upperville, Va., on Wednesday, August 3, 1877. Dr. Cuthbert as preacher and S. B. Baker as alternate. After remarks by a number of the brethren the report was adopted.

Rev. W. S. Penick, from the committee on S. A. missions, reported that in regard to the work within the limits of the association that they had failed to accomplish all they had hoped, but they had good reason to be encouraged. During the past year they had had seven missionaries at work in the field. On account of the resignation of the Rev. Mr. Murray the Martinsburg church had been united with the Mt. Zion church, and called upon Rev. A. C. Rogers to officiate. The resignation of Rev. Mr. Lewis has been received. Rev. Mr. Dulin gives encouraging reports of his field. At Oakland a new church has been started. At the same time being started. Attention was called to the destitute fields of the association. Numerous fields for missionary work were reported.

Some spirited speeches were made upon the subject, and the following resolution offered and adopted:

Resolved, That our churches be urged, in raising their contributions to the objects of the general association, to send all the amounts raised, let the agent or collector be whom he may, directly to Dr. Geo. B. Steel, the treasurer of the general association, so as to secure in its minutes a full and perfect publication of the same.

The acting board was appointed as follows: J. L. Carroll, J. A. Haynes, W. S. Penick, J. B. Luke, W. R. D. Moursure, J. R. Nunn, Otis Mason, West Hurchison, W. H. Benton, A. E. Rogers, G. D. Wiltshire, W. S. Kerns and J. B. Brown.

The following resolution was offered by Rev. T. B. Shepherd:

Resolved, That the acting board be requested to appoint in all of our churches members to represent the different boards of the general association and receive contributions for them.

Yesterday being the day appointed to hear from foreign missions, it was decided by the committee that Rev. Dr. Jeter, of Richmond, should address the association upon the work in Italy. At the appointed time a large number of persons assembled. The exercises were opened with choice selections of music by the choir. An interesting order was gone through with; after which the Doctor delivered a fine address upon the subject selected for the evening, which was a clear description of how the mission work was prospering, and abounded with interesting information of Italian manners and customs, and of the progress and power of Christianity in Italy. The meeting closed with the usual order of exercises to meet this morning at 9 o'clock.

**CANAL EXTENSION.**—A Chesapeake and Ohio Canal extension meeting was held at Cumberland on Tuesday, Hon. Patrick Hamill in the chair. The chairman said that a committee had visited Congress and failed to secure any assistance in the premises, and it was resolved to adopt the only remaining relief, viz, the establishing of a feeder in the shape of a railroad from Cumberland to the mouth of Savage river. This step is expected to be consummated by the aid of the State of Maryland and by such other assistance as can be secured. It was resolved that a committee ascertain by preliminary survey and estimates the cost of the proposed road and its probable business and profits.

#### Card from Mr. King.

To the editor of the Alexandria Gazette: Perhaps a few words from me may be comforting to my friends, who may read the vile misrepresentations of my character so industriously circulated throughout the country by one who is trying to play the role of newspaper correspondent. When I was settled in the parish here, I was no stranger to the people, having done service here years ago, and through a benevolent society, of which I was President, had aided not a little in trying to establish the church in this place. After my settlement I saw that the great hindrance to religion and morality was to be found in the whiskey shops throughout the country, and I went to work with other gentlemen, in a Christian manner, to get rid of these fountains of iniquity. I had the satisfaction of seeing our efforts, in a measure, successful. Some dealers had the good sense to acknowledge the righteousness of our intentions, and so far as I know, cherish no animosities toward me for the part I took in the matter, but others did, and the bad elements of society were systematically combined against me. Finally a shrewd and ingenious agent has been secured and rumors such as would suit the vulgar tastes of the rabble have been circulated, and public sentiment has been duly prepared for the consummation of their diabolical purposes through the Court. Special counsel has been secured in the person of the former attorney for this county, D. W. Whiting, and his confederates, so that the rankest poison might be infused into the prosecution. The warrant was issued for a felony, so as to exclude my testimony. Like Prometheus, I was chained to the rock, whilst vultures tore away my vitals. This charge not being sustained, the magistrate held me for appearance to answer an indictment in Court for "misdeemeanor," telling me I would have trouble about the matter. When the court was organized and the grand jury impaneled, I asked the privilege of going before them and making a statement before the vote was taken involving the question of guilt or innocence, and was refused the privilege of doing so by the Judge and the Commonwealth's Attorney, so that thus far I had no chance to defend myself. When the indictment was read I immediately arose and asked to go into trial. The trouble then was that my calculations had gone through the county reeling their vile slanders, and had secured a verdict in the popular mind where I was not known, before my side of the case was heard. A verdict was demanded. These moral assassins were all about me in crowds. I felt that my soul was among lions. Some of my worst enemies were on the grand jury, which rendered the indictment, and Purcell, whose relations to our temperance movement and myself, are well known, was foreman of the jury of trial. I was unjustly cited to all sorts of indignities during the trial from the rabble, and while seated at the desk writing, was assaulted by Nickol, the special counsel who is so anxious for conviction, for which he was fined \$3. If I had committed such an assault on him I presume I should have been in jail to-day and quiet quite beyond my means to pay. There was no sort of familiarity with the prosecution in this case. It is evidently a put up job. That portion of the people who delight to wriggle to slim are exceedingly delighted, the better classes are greatly grieved and afflicted. I am very grateful for the sympathy shown me by the more cultured and respectable portion of the community, without respect to church party, whose assurance of their continued confidence and sympathetic regard. I trust that all good people will pray for me that the Lord would save me from the snares of the wicked.

C. KING.

**INNOCENTS ABROAD.**—"Lippa" writes to the Washington Republican from Chesapeake City, Md., August 15, 1876: "Believing that health may be largely promoted and pleasure secured, to an extent not otherwise attainable, by an annual cruise upon the waters of our beautiful rivers and bays and their tributaries, and that the enjoyment of such an occasion is greatly enhanced by the association of congenial minds," the "Innocents Abroad," from the preamble of whose constitution the above extract is taken, started on their second annual cruise on Saturday, August 12, 1876, from the Sixth street wharf in the last sailing schooner Commodore, Capt. John Keller.

The excursion party this year is composed of the following members: E. J. Evans, president of the club; H. E. Weaver, secretary; O. T. Thapson, treasurer and purser; L. Stoddard, sailing master; C. G. McLean and E. Schmidt, executive committee; Dr. Wilton Haines, T. F. Shoemaker, A. S. Lynch, D. W. Lathrop, J. P. Millard, John Stunkel, B. Y. Martin, E. A. Evans, Byron Turner and Chas. A. Appel.

The route laid down is to go first to Philadelphia, to the Centennial, of course; thence to Cape May, to Atlantic City, to Long Branch and Jamaica Bay, if time will permit; thence along the Atlantic coast to the capes of Virginia and home.

From the well known reputation of the members composing the excursion party, and the route selected, it will be easily seen that a good time is not only anticipated, but fully determined upon. There were few incidents worthy of note occurred during the passage down the river to Point Lookout. Head winds retarded the progress of the vessel somewhat, but proved her excellent sailing qualities, as well as the seamanship of the captain. The "Innocents" found some friends at Point Lookout, with whom they visited and took some fish. Once more on their way, Stoddard captured a Spanish mackerel which had wandered into forsaken paths. The precious "Innocents" are all well and having a good time.

The "Innocents" from this city are all well and enjoying themselves hugely.

A postal was received here from one of them this morning announcing their good health and their intention to start for Cape May on Saturday.

In a small section of Chesterfield county, about seven miles from Petersburg, no rain has fallen for six weeks.

#### MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

Sun rose..... 5 19 | Moon rises..... 3 55  
Sun sets..... 6 47 | High water..... 0 00

#### ARRIVED.

Steamer Lady of the Lake, Norfolk, to F A Reed.  
Steamer Mattano, lower Potomac, to N Boush & Son.  
Schr Lemuel Hall, for Georgetown.

#### SAILED.

Steamer Lady of the Lake, Norfolk, by F A Reed.  
Steamer John W Thompson, lower Potomac, by F A Reed.  
Steamer Express, Baltimore, by Jos Brothers & Co.  
Steamer Maid of the Mist, Norfolk, by Hamp & Ball Coal Co.  
Schr Helen Hasbrouck, Jersey City, by American Coal Co.  
Schr Lavinia and America, from Georgetown.

#### MEMORANDA.

Sebrs Adelbert and Sarah S Hardins, hence, at Boston 16th.

#### CANAL COMMERCE.

Arrived—Boats W Walsh, to American Coal Company.  
Departed—Boats A S Winttingham, J R Anderson, T H Fells, A J Akin and W Walsh.

#### MARRIED.

On the 17th inst., by Rev. Samuel Madden, at the residence in this city of the bride's father, SALLY BOLLING, eldest daughter of Saml. H. Bolling, esq., to ARTHUR FISHER, esq., of Washington city, D. C. No cards.

#### CHOICE OHIO BUTTER

received and for sale low by  
F. J. DAVIDSON,  
147 King street.

#### Telegraphic Briefs.

John Frederick Lewis, R. A., a well known painter in oil and water colors, in London, is dead.

The Republicans of the Sixth district of Missouri nominated H. E. Haven for Congress yesterday.

On Wednesday last at Holly Springs, Mississippi, Willis J. Jones, colored, was killed by Marsh Walker, also colored, in a dispute.

Michael DeJao was stabbed by John Morton during a marriage festival last night in Boston. It is thought he will die.

The national forest convention will be held by the American Forest Council at Santa Cruz, Cape May Point, N. J., September 7th and 8th next.

A drunken, worthless fellow named Archy, made a murderous assault upon a highly respectable farmer named Joseph Parker, at Walsau, Indiana, yesterday, and thrust the blade of a large pocket knife into his armpit, inflicting a mortal wound.

C. M. Bradbury, in jail at Marshall, Mo., charged with forgery, attacked the jailor yesterday with an iron bar, inflicting several dangerous wounds upon his head. During the assault the jailor shot Bradbury in the abdomen with a pistol, and it is thought, he will die.

The body of Willie McElish, a farmer residing near Fort Donald, Miss., was found in the bushes near his home last week. The head was severed from the body. Bill McKeliff and Jack Seely, colored, were arrested on suspicion, and confessed to having murdered McElish and robbed him afterwards. McKeliff had on the murdered man's shoes when arrested. The murderers are now in jail.

#### CONGRESSIONAL CONVENTION.

By virtue of the authority vested in us by the State Conservative Committee, we hereby designate WEDNESDAY, the 30th day of August, 1876, as the time, and the city of Alexandria as the place, for holding a convention to nominate the Conservative candidate for Congress in the 8th Congressional District of Virginia.

The convention will be composed of five delegates from each magisterial district in the counties of Orange, Madison, Culpeper, Rappahannock, Fauquier, Fairfax, Loudoun, Alexandria, Frederick, Clarke and Warren, and one delegate from each voting precinct in the cities of Alexandria and Winchester, and the basis of voting in said Congressional convention shall be one vote for every one hundred votes cast for Governor Kemper in November, 1874.

JOHN T. LOVELL,  
A. D. PAYNE,  
J. K. STROTHER,

Members State Con. Com. 8th Cong. Dis.

#### CONSERVATIVE MEETINGS.

For the purpose of reorganizing the party for its greater efficiency in the coming election, the Conservative voters of the city are hereby requested to meet in their respective wards on TUESDAY NIGHT NEXT, the 22nd inst., at 7 o'clock, for the purpose of electing two superintendents in each ward, whose duty it will be to choose a County Superintendent and arrange all matters pertaining to the campaign, also to elect delegates to the Congressional convention, which assemblies in this city on the 30th inst.